

MICHIGAN WATERWAYS COUNCIL
OF GIRL SCOUTS MEDAL CEREMONY

HON. DAVID E. BONIOR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. BONIOR. Mr. Speaker, this Saturday, September 30, 1995, the Michigan Waterways Council of Girl Scouts is hosting its 28th International River Crossing.

As many of my colleagues know, the 10th Congressional District of Michigan, the district I have the privilege to represent, borders Ontario, Canada. Separated by Lake St. Clair and the St. Clair River, our two nations are less than a mile apart along the river. This proximity of Canada has allowed for close relations between the peoples of Michigan and Ontario.

For almost three decades the Girl Scouts have been participating in the promotion of our international friendship by sponsoring a river crossing. From 1967 through 1988, Girl Scouts from all over Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, and Girl Guides from Ontario have gathered to hike across the Blue Water Bridge. The increased travel and trade between our two countries in recent years has caused us to begin the twinning of the Bluewater Bridge and expansion of the plaza at the base of the existing bridge. Since 1989, during these construction improvements, the crossing has taken place via ferry between Marine City, MI, and Sombra, ON. After the ferry crossing, the participants will again make the 1½ mile hike to Cundick Park for a day of sharing activities and swapping tokens of friendship.

This year's event is especially exciting. The National Board of Directors of the Girl Scouts of the U.S.A. annually recognizes outstanding contributions to international understanding. Honorees receive the Juliette Low World Friendship Medal. During a 1 p.m. ceremony at the park, the Michigan Waterways Council of Girl Scouts and the Girl Guides of Canada will become one of only two recipients in the entire United States to receive the 1995 medal. I congratulate them for their well-deserved recognition.

While participating in scouting, countless girls have acquired leadership skills and been involved in activities that foster positive self-esteem. The river crossing serves the additional function of promoting peace and international friendship. I applaud all involved with the Girl Scouts and Girl Guides for their hard work and good will. And, I urge my colleagues to join me in saluting them as 1995 recipients of the prestigious Juliette Low World Friendship Medal.

A TRIBUTE TO ALIVE

HON. JAMES M. TALENT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 1995

Mr. TALENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to ALIVE, Alternatives to Living in

Violent Environments, a not-for-profit organization which has served the St. Louis area for the past 14 years.

ALIVE's goal is to provide accessible and affordable alternatives to violence for abused women and their children. This organization offers a variety of community services and educational programs designed to empower the abused to take control of their lives and enable them to realize their own strengths and abilities. Thus far in 1995, ALIVE has increased its service to the St. Louis area by 45 percent, having served over 12,000 women and children.

As part of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, ALIVE has planned a number of special events throughout October to educate the public and recruit support in the fight against domestic violence. On October 2, the organization is sponsoring a march and rally followed by a dinner, featuring guest speaker Denise Brown of the Nicole Brown Simpson Foundation. They are also hosting several luncheons later in the month on October 18 and one on October 27 which will feature guest speaker Sarah Buel.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and a privilege for me to pay tribute to this fine organization, and commend them upon their efforts toward the elimination of family violence in this country. I join them in calling upon all citizens to participate in this national awareness campaign.

CELEBRATING A CENTENNIAL OF
WORSHIP

HON. JAMES A. BARCIA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 27, 1995

Mr. BARCIA. Mr. Speaker, worship and the peaceful sanctuary of a place of worship are tremendously valuable in our lives, and particularly at times of challenge or conflict. For the members of the Christian Assembly Church in Bay City, MI, they have had the good fortune to enjoy the stability of being in one location for 100 years. This anniversary is being celebrated this weekend with a round of events that truly signify the importance of this church.

Founded in 1879 by Walter Sims, this church has been of great importance to thousands of people in Bay City over the years. The church moved to its current location in 1895 to respond to growing needs, and has prospered in the intervening years.

Probably one of the most important aspects of the Christian Assembly Church is its sense of community and service from within. In fact, until 1960, every single pastor of the church had come from within the church itself. There have been only 11 pastors in the history of the church, starting with Walter Sims, 1879–1916; and continuing with Luke Prine, 1916–1919; Robert McCullough, 1922–1923; Charles Doan, 1923–1935; Roscoe Roeder, 1935–1959; D. Neil Neuenschwander, 1960–1965; Earl Van Houghton, 1966–1970; William Severance, 1970–1977; Arnold Gibson, 1978–1985; Jim Salo, 1985–1987; and the current pastor since 1988, Larry Kirkpatrick.

The ministry at the church has been involved in a number of important activities over its time. The church in its early years had a school, covering elementary grades and also providing a trade school, particularly for printing. Before the advent of government assistance programs, the church and its members took it upon themselves to provide a welfare program for widows and other needy individuals. And every year the church has been involved in a created-for-caring Christmas tree that has helped provide a reminder that the purpose of this holiday is giving of oneself for the benefit of others.

How right the English jurist John Selden was when he said, in part, "A glorious Church is like a magnificent feast." The members of the Christian Assembly Church have been feasting for a century on blessings, good will, commitment, and the recognition that we all must be prepared to answer for our lives when all is said and done. They have always left a place at their table for others to join in, and are, I know, more willing than ever to make that table even larger, especially at the time of this centennial of worship at their East Vermont location in Bay City.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and all of our colleagues to join me in wishing Pastor Kirkpatrick and all of the members of the Christian Assembly Church, a most joyous anniversary, with the best hopes for the next century of the Church's dedication to service.

TAIWAN DESERVES
INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION

HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 28, 1995

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, 2 weeks ago, I attended the 13th International Conference on Asian Affairs at St. John's University in New York City. At that conference, I listened to a scholarly discussion on the Republic of China's recent economic and political achievements and Taiwan's need and desire to return to the United Nations and other international organizations.

As I stated during the conference, Taiwan truly deserves a much larger international voice. On the question of Taiwan and China, we should all remain mindful of the fact that the Soviet Union allowed two national entities under Soviet rule, Ukraine and Byelorussia, to sit in the United Nations as independent voting members. A clear precedent already has been set.

At the conference, I further expressed my admiration for Taiwan's willingness to help underdeveloped and needy countries become self-sufficient. I firmly believe that countries such as Haiti can benefit from assistance received from other countries, including the Republic of China on Taiwan.

On October 10, 1995, the Republic of China on Taiwan will celebrate its National Day. I wish it much success in its continuing bid to return to the United Nations and in its efforts to help developing countries such as Haiti.

Mr. Speaker, for valid, well-documented political, economic and social reasons, it is evident that Taiwan is deserving of our support.